

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for selecting a DSP route for a digital message,
5 the method comprising the steps of:
 - a) providing a unique prioritization tag for the digital message;
 - 10 b) supplying prioritized criteria from the user to an overlay software;
 - c) choosing the DSP route by evaluating the prioritized criteria in the overlay software; and
15 d) routing the digital message through the chosen DSP route.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of
20 tracking the chosen DSP route for accounting purposes.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising the step of preparing a billing record of the chosen DSP route.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising repeating steps
5 a) through d) for a next user.

5. The method of claim 1 further comprising repeating steps
a) through d) for a next digital message.

10 6. The method of claim 1 wherein said prioritized criteria comprises at least one of the following criteria:

- a) cost of sending the digital message;

- 15 b) speed of delivery of the digital message;

- c) security of the digital message; and

- d) integrity of the digital message.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of choosing a DSP route is performed at a member of the group consisting of a vehicle, a user initiation facility, and a government control facility.

5 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of tagging comprises manual tagging.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of tagging comprises automatic tagging.

10 10. The method of claim 1 wherein said overlay software comprises at least one of the following:

lookup tables;

15 logarithmic calculations and real-time information on cost; available DSP routes; and DSP route status information.

20 11. The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of updating the real-time information.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the step of updating comprises time-based updates.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein the step of updating
5 comprises querying at least one DSP provider.

14. An avionics routing method for digital messages, the
method comprising the steps of:

10 a) providing a unique prioritization tag for a digital
message;

b) supplying prioritized criteria from the user to an
overlay software;

15 c) evaluating the prioritized criteria by the overlay
software;

d) choosing a DSP route from at least two DSP service
20 providers by the overlay software; and

e) transmitting the digital message through the chosen DSP route.

15. The method of claim 14 further comprising the step of
5 tracking the chosen DSP route for accounting purposes.

16. The method of claim 14 further comprising repeating steps
a) through e) for a next digital message.

10 17. The method of claim 14 wherein said prioritized criteria
comprises at least one of the following criteria:

- a) a cost of sending the digital message;
- b) speed of delivery of the digital message;
- c) security of the digital message; and
- d) integrity of the digital message.

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18. The method of claim 14 wherein said overlay software
comprises at least one of the following:

lookup tables;
logarithmic calculations and real-time information on cost;
available DSP routes; and
DSP route status information.